

Aesculus glabra Willd. To the list of counties noted should be added Washington. (Hanlin. *O. E. Jennings*, 1908.)

Tilia heterophylla Vent. Noted as "Not known to occur in the western part." Is represented by a specimen from Charleroi, Washington County, *O. E. Jennings*, June 9, 1904. Leaves white beneath with a fine stellate pubescence.

Oxydendrum arboreum (L.) DC. Noted as "found only sparingly in the southeastern part of the state." Dr. J. A. Shafer and O. P. Medsger collected this tree in Westmoreland County, "Mt. Pleasant Twp., field near Brush Creek. July 19, 1900."

Fraxinus nigra Marsh. Noted as "Common in the eastern, southern central and western parts." But the present reviewer has botanized rather extensively in southwestern Pennsylvania and it can be stated positively that this species is *rare* in that part of the state. It occurs in great abundance in Crawford County, is common in Erie, occurs in Beaver and Armstrong counties, and is represented by specimens collected a number of years ago in Allegheny County, otherwise we know of no records for western Pennsylvania.

O. E. JENNINGS

CARNEGIE MUSEUM,
February 8, 1915

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

FEBRUARY 9, 1915

The meeting of February 9 was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M., President Harper presiding. Fifty persons were present.

There being no business the President announced the lecture of the evening, "A Phytogeographic Trip in the Himalayas," by Mr. Ralph R. Stewart. An abstract prepared by the speaker follows:

"The ground covered by my trips extends from Rawalpindi in the Punjab to Kashmir, thence to Leh and Himis in Western Tibet (Ladak) and south to Simla, via Rupshu, Lahoul and Kulu. The distance is about 900 miles. As the range of altitude is three miles there are great variations in the flora from tropical to

arctic, all on the same meridian. The Himalayas act as a tremendous barrier and their southern slopes have abundant rains so that in most places, especially above 8,000 feet, the vegetation is luxuriant and rich Alpine meadows extend to the snow line which is about 15,000 feet.

“On the Tibetan side of the ‘great range’ the transition is rapid to a desert flora. Pencil cedar, *Tamarix*, *Myricaria*, *Elaeagnus*, *Hippophae* and willow seem to be the only common indigenous trees, but on irrigated bits of land the apricot, mulberry, apple, balsam poplar, Lombardy poplar and several willows grow readily up to 12,000 ft. Wheat, buckwheat, barley and peas are the best crops. The barley and buckwheat ripen readily at 14,000 ft. where the snow line is 19,000 feet. Vascular plants have been found right up to this tremendous height. The struggle for existence is not between plant and plant, but between plants and nature as great patches have no vegetation whatever. Where irrigation is possible, however, the yield is excellent and wild herbs and shrubs spring up luxuriantly along irrigation ditches where they get some seepage. The Compositae, Gramineae, Leguminosae, Labiatae, Caryophyllaceae and Ranunculaceae are especially common families. Monocotyledons, mosses, ferns and saprophytes are rare.”

Following the lecture, President Harper called attention to an interesting form of *Elfvigia megaloma* placed on exhibition by Dr. Fisher. This fungus was an exceedingly large specimen upon which several secondary sporophores had developed subsequent to the falling of the tree upon which it had originally developed.

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

FEBRUARY 24, 1915

The meeting of February 24, 1915, was held in the morphological laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M., President Harper presiding. Twenty-five persons were present.

The minutes of the meetings held January 27 and February 9 were read and approved.

The following persons were nominated for membership: Dr. A. H. Chivers, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.; Mr. Kenneth R. Boynton, N. Y. Botanical Garden, N. Y. City; Miss Margaret Slosson, N. Y. Botanical Garden, N. Y. City; Dr. M. A. Graham, 127 Kensington Avenue, Jersey City Heights, N. J.; and Miss Olga Hinsberg, 1285 Hoe Avenue, The Bronx, N. Y. City.

The death of Mrs. Alla Doughty, occurring February 12, was announced.

The resignation of Dr. E. D. Clark was read and accepted with regrets. The resignation of Mr. F. V. Rand was also accepted.

The following new members were then elected: Dr. A. H. Chivers, Mr. Kenneth Boynton and Miss Margaret Slosson.

The first number on the announced scientific program was a paper on "*Agalinis* and Allies in North America," by Dr. F. W. Pennell. An abstract prepared by the speaker follows:

"A brief summary of the speaker's investigations in this group of scrophulariaceous plants was presented. Of this group, until recently mostly included in *Gerardia* L., he would recognize as occurring in North America nine genera and seventy-nine species. Two of these genera, both monotypic, and nineteen species are now being proposed as new. The attempt is being made to work out as thoroughly as possible the interrelationship of the various species, then from this the comparative phylogeny of the several genera. Of the fifty-three species occurring in the United States nearly all have been studied and described in their native environments, a point, the value of which in taxonomic work, the speaker believes cannot be over-emphasized. Specimens illustrating most of the latter species were shown, also maps showing the known range of each. As besides his own collections, the speaker has reviewed nearly all extant herbarium-material of this group, these maps portray distribution with unusual completeness. Also brief mention was made of the type of root-parasitism in the several genera. The results of this investigation, carried out under a research appointment from the University of Pennsylvania, are to appear in a forthcoming monograph on "*Agalinis* and Allies in North America."

Dr. A. B. Stout then gave a paper on "A Dwarf Mutant of

Hibiscus oculiroseus" that has appeared in his cultivation of this species. The new form was described in comparison with the usual robust type, and the history of its origin was given. It is the plan to present a full account of the plant in a future number of the *Bulletin* of the Club.

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

NEWS ITEMS

Announcements have been issued for the twentieth anniversary of the appropriation by the City of New York of 250 acres of land in Bronx Park for the use of the New York Botanical Garden. The event will be commemorated at the Garden during the week commencing September 6, 1915. Botanists from all parts of North America have been invited to attend. The part played by the Torrey Club in the early days of the initiation of the movement for the establishment of the New York Botanical Garden is well known to most of our members. On Friday, September 10, the botanists attending the anniversary are to be taken to a locality in the pine-barrens of New Jersey, under the guidance of the Club.

It is reported in *Science* that Mr. G. Masee has retired from his position as head of the cryptogamic department in the herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Professor H. A. Cummins, professor of botany and agriculture at University College, Cork, has been given a commission in the British Army.

The *Plant World* announces two prizes which are to be awarded for the best papers embodying original work in any phase of the water relations of plants. The amount of the first prize is \$50, and of the second prize \$10. The offering of these purses is made possible by the generosity of Professor B. E. Livingston and by contributions from Dr. D. T. MacDougal, Professor J. J. Thornber, Dr. J. B. Overton, Dr. H. C. Cowles and Mrs. Edith B. Shreve. Competing papers should be written